

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-02 /005 R

66643

DRAFTED BY :ARA/CAR:G.B.HIGH

8/24/73 EXT 22620

ARA/CAR/JOHN R BURKE

CLEARANCES:IO/UNP-HSYLVESTER(SUBS)

ARA/USOAS:GMNOSMA(SUBS)

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R 241935Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMCONSUL CURACAO

UNCLAS STATE 168968

FOLLOWING TEL FROM USUN NEWYORK TO SECSTATE WASHDC INFO: ABIDJAN
ADDIS ABABA BAMAKO BELGRADE CANBERRA CARACAS DAR ES SALAAM
FREETOWN JAKARTA KABUL MOSCOW NEW DELHI PORT OF SPAIN
PRAGUE SANTIAGO SOFIA STOCKHOLM TEHRAN TUNIS PEKING AUG 23, 73
IS REPTD.

QUOTE

UNCLAS USUN 2944

DEPT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

DEPT POUCH SUVA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN RQ

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO IN UN COMITE OF 24

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FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT BY AMB SCALI, AUG 22, REGARDING
SPECIAL COMITE OF 24'S DECISION TO GRANT A HEARING TO
TWO PUERTO RICAN ORGANIZATIONS:

"LAST YEAR, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION FORCEFULLY
STATED THE BASIC UNITED STATES POSITION ON THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PUERTO
RICO. MY PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR BUSH, WROTE TO THE
COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 28, 1972 THAT SUCH INVOLVEMENT WOULD
BE AN AFFRONT TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, TO
THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO, AND TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY IN VIEW OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTION OF
1953, WHICH DECLARED PUERTO RICO TO BE SELF GOVERNING.

IN COMMENTING ON TODAY'S ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE, I HAVE
ONLY ONE POINT TO ADD. THE MOST ELOQUENT AND PERSUASIVE
TESTIMONY TO THE POLITICAL SENTIMENTS OF THE PUERTO RICAN
PEOPLE WAS DELIVERED ON NOVEMBER 8, 1972, WHEN WELL OVER
A MILLION PUERTO RICANS WENT TO THE POLLS, IN AN ELECTION
WHICH ALL POLITICAL PARTIES AGREED WAS A FREE ONE. THE
FRINGE ELEMENTS WHICH THE COMMITTEE TODAY AGREED TO HEAR
COLLECTED ALL OF 4 PERCENT OF THE VOTE. A TOTAL OF 96
PERCENT REJECTED THE EXTREMIST ARGUMENTS THAT THIS TINY
CLIQUE OF SELF-APPOINTED SPOKESMEN IS NOW SEEKING TO
REVIVE HERE IN NEW YORK RATHER THAN IN PUERTO RICO.
THE PROPER PLACE FOR THESE PEOPLE TO SELL THEIR VIEWS IS
NOT IN NEW YORK BUT IN PUERTO RICO. THEY KNOW FULL WELL,
HOWEVER, THAT THESE VIEWS ONCE AGAIN WOULD BE RESOUNDINGLY
REJECTED BY THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS.

TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THERE IS A CONTINUING DIALOGUE
WITH THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE ON THEIR EVOLVING POLITICAL
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, MY GOVERNMENT AND
GOVERNOR HERNANDEZ COLON OF PUERTO RICO ANNOUNCED ON
AUGUST 2, 1973 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW FOURTEEN MEMBER
AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP COMPOSED OF OUTSTANDING PUERTO RICANS
AND AMERICANS ON THE MAINLAND. OUR PEOPLES ARE JUSTLY PROUD
OF THE HISTORIC EVOLUTION OF THE FREE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO. NO AMOUNT OF SPEECH
MAKING IN THE COMMITTEE CAN DIMINISH THIS UNIQUE ACHIEVE-
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE168968
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARA/CAR:G.B.HIGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730816/aaaaalpv.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUERTO RICO IN UN COMITE OF 24 UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: OCON, PFOR, RQ, UN
To: NASSAU MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005